



## SJC Faculty and Alumna Publish Their Work

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We all know that books take a long time to write, and a lot of work goes into them. Our very own Professors and an alumna have done that very thing! Dr. Charles Kerlin, Professor Shannon Anderson, and Alumna Angela Palm have ventured into to the publishing world, each releasing new titles in the last year.

Professor of English Charles Kerlin has written his first book, *Fishing's No Good Without You*, which is an autobiographical novel. He initially planned on writing a memoir, but found the stories and characters were taking directions that weren't necessarily true to life, making it an autobiographical novel. It is not just a fishing book; it is a book about a life. The book starts out when Dr. Kerlin's character, Curly, is just a young boy. He is out at the river with his Dad and a few friends talking about their lives. The book goes on to tell the story of his life until this point and his thoughts on a good life. Dr. Kerlin has been writing this book since the 90s, but really started writing it in the last 2-3 years. His son, Scott Kerlin, arranged the covers and did the cover's art. Now he is working on a book called *Daisy's Daughter*, which is a continuation of *The Great Gatsby* in which Gatsby faked his death.

On Thursday, October 16 in the Courtney Auditorium and Friday October 17 at eMbers, Dr. Kerlin had a reading and signing. There he read passages from



Above: The covers of Kerlin's Autobiographical novel *Fishing's No Good Without You* and Angela Palm's anthology *Please Do Not Remove*.

his book along with 2004 Saint Joseph's College Alumna Angela Palm. At the reading on Thursday, Kerlin read an excerpt that had nothing to do with fishing at all. On Friday he read a passage about Doc, one of Curly's stepfathers. This passage included fishing and life lessons, as well as a shocking twist. Angela Palm read excerpt from her novel *Please Do Not Remove*, an anthology containing works based off of the cards found in the back of old library books. Based on the names and handwriting, combined



Dr. Charles Kerlin and Angela Palm reading excerpts from their newly published books in the Courtney Auditorium on October 16, 2014. Photo courtesy of Natalie Dziadosz

with research of the time period, contributors wrote stories or poems about what those people must have been like. Palm contributed and edited the book. Palm's contribution that she read at the reading at eMbers was about a woman from the 1930s facing a dilemma with her husband.

Angela Palm graduated from Saint Joseph's College with a degree in English and Criminal Justice. *Please Do Not Remove* took Palm about 16 months from start to finish. The idea originally started as writing scene based on the cards she found, and then her research transformed her works.



Above: Shannon Anderson and Dr. Neil Haskell at Anderson's book signing for *Maggot Man* on October 11, 2014. Photo courtesy of Shannon Anderson.

She started buying cards and giving them to fellow writers to write stories and poetry from. She put out a call on a website to three or four publishers in New England. She received two offers and picked the publishing company that best fit her needs. Palm is currently working on a collection of essays about the Kankakee River that is scheduled to come out in about eighteen months. Palm offers advice to fellow Pumas who are interested in pursuing a writing career: "Write every day and really write to the point of obsession...follow your heart and don't let outside forces change that."

In the last year, Adjunct Professor Shannon Anderson has published three children's books: *I Am Not a Pirate*, *Nicken Chuggets*, and *Maggot Man*. Prof. Anderson is a Literacy Coach and High Ability Coordinator at Van Elementary who teaches Spanish for Educator's, and will be teaching two additional education courses in the upcoming spring semester at the College.

*I Am Not a Pirate* is based on her daughter's experience with wearing an eye patch due to amblyopia. Anderson commented, "I noticed that there weren't many books about amblyopia and decided to write a book about it." She mentioned that perhaps if there were books about this condition and other eye issues, her daughter, and other children like her daughter, would have more confidence. Her goal is to distribute this book to as many eye doctor's offices as possible.

*Nicken Chuggets*, is about two boys trying to raise money to attend science camp. The main character often speaks

book that focuses on forensic entomology. She spent two years researching and talking with Saint Joseph's College's Dr. Neil Haskell, a professor of biology and head of the forensics program. She also took his forensic entomology course to get hands-on experience. The book was published by Royal Fireworks Press, a publishing company that specializes in books for high ability students.

On Saturday, October 11, 2014, Anderson and Haskell had a book signing and reading at The Willow Switch. Anderson commented that it went very well, and she was glad to see family, friends, and a few Saint Joseph's students come out.

Anderson first became interesting in publishing her work in high school when she worked as a child librarian. However, she wasn't able to do this until she received the 2010 Lily Teacher Creativity Fellowship, a grant awarded to an Indiana teacher to fulfill their passion. With this grant, she attended writing conferences and took writing courses. She started learning about the writing and publishing process and networking with other authors.

Her advice to aspiring children's authors is to join the Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI). She says, "They are a huge organization, and I have gone to a lot of their conferences... their website also has a wealth of information." She also advises to "develop a tough skin and never give up because it is a tough business." She is currently working on another book titled *Penelope Perfect* which will be published by Free Spirit Publishing with specializes in books for children with social-emotional health concerns. The project has just entered the illustration process.

Kerlin, Palm, and Anderson have promising careers and are looking to publish more titles. Be on the lookout for your fellow Pumas' work now and in the future.



Dr. Charles Kerlin and alumna Angela Palm at their book signing and reading at eMbers on October 17, 2014. Both signed books, read excerpts, and answered questions. Photo courtesy of Kylie Hill.

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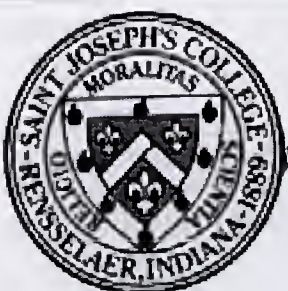
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# SJC Can Show You the World: 2014 Winterim trip to China

By Casey Snow  
News Writer

A major part of college is the opportunity to learn more about and see more of the world and what it has to offer. What better way to learn about a country and its culture than by traveling there and experiencing it? There are many opportunities to travel, such as the trip that Professor Broadman is organizing to the Virgin Islands, the Habitats for Humanities trip to Romania, and even the Core 7 trip to Africa. Professor Toadvine is offering a winterim trip to China, and the deadline is approaching soon.

Winterim is a great time to travel, as classes are done and everyone is ready for a break. This year, students that take the trip to China will have the wonderful opportunity to see places like Beijing, Hong Kong, the Great Wall, and the Forbidden City. On December 27, students will leave from Chicago and arrive in Beijing on the 28th. After spending two days in Beijing, students will fly to Shanghai to see the largest



Students can expect to learn how to use chopsticks

Photo courtesy of Google Images

commercial and financial center of China, and a chance to take a night cruise on the Huangpu River. Students will spend New Year's in Shanghai, then spend the rest of the day touring Nanjing.

The rest of the trip students will spend touring Wuxi, Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Zhuhai, ending their trip with two days to explore Hong Kong. On January 9th students will board the plane in Hong Kong and fly back to the U.S., ready to begin a new semester at SJC after traveling China and even learning how to use chop sticks. As Professor Toadvine comments, "You learn how to use chopsticks, whether you like it or not."

St. Joseph's College offers this trip every few years. There is generally a group of about 6-10 people who go, and it is a great opportunity to see more of the world. Professor Wong, who is currently in China, helped organize SJC's last trip and even introduced those who went on the trip to her family members who live there. If she is back in the U.S. by the time December arrives, she plans on going with on the trip. If she is still in China, Professor Toadvine plans on meeting up with her during her visit.

This trip to China is open to anyone who is interested. To get more information, contact Professor Toadvine who is willing to answer any questions and give more information about this year's trip. The deadline has been extended to Friday, October 24th, and Professor Toadvine encourages students to learn more about it. It is a great opportunity to explore and learn more about China, its history, its culture, and the beauty that it gives the world.

## Share the Arts at Measure Reading

By Kylie Hill and Alyssa Cook  
Editors-in-Chief

On October 29, 2014, Measure will be holding a reading at the Whispering Wall outside of the Halleck Center.

Measure is a literary magazine that publishes student, faculty, staff, and alumni writing and visual art work annually. Along with their annual publication, Measure holds reading where anyone can come and share short stories, poems, art work, excerpts from longer works, or whatever they have to share. Nicole Thomsen, a senior Art major and editor of Measure commented that Measure applies to anyone, whether an artist, writer, poet, musician, or just have an essay you are really proud of.

Dr. Maia Hawthorne, a professor of English and the faculty advisor of Measure, noted that the purpose of Measure

readings is to "share the arts with the community....allow other writers and artists to share in each other's work... and remind people of the annual publication and submission deadline."

This particular reading will include a costume contest where the winner will receive a prize. There will also be a prize awarded for the best piece that is shared at the event. Even though the reading is around Halloween and is featuring a costume party, art and pieces shared do not have to be spooky or scary; anything you have and would like to share is welcome.

Measure also offers a comfortable learning environment to aspiring writers or those who just enjoy writing in their free time. Members of Measure are there to support each other and give each other advice and encouragement. Hawthorne explains the many benefits of

Measure. She says, "It's a great way to network with other writers and artists...it's helpful to get together with other writers to celebrate and share your work... it's a way to get inspired... and this is good experience if you're looking to edit or write in the future. Thomsen notes that "It's a great resume builder for Literature and Art students."

Throughout first semester, everyone is invited to submit their art work, poetry, or short stories. This year, submissions are due on November 21, 2014. If interested, you can email submissions to [measure@saintjoe.edu](mailto:measure@saintjoe.edu). After all the submissions are in, they will be juried and selected. The entire publication is juried, edited, advertised, and produced by students.

Even if you do not have anything to share or do not feel comfortable sharing at the October reading or future readings, you are more than welcome to come out, listen to great literary pieces, and view wonderful art work.

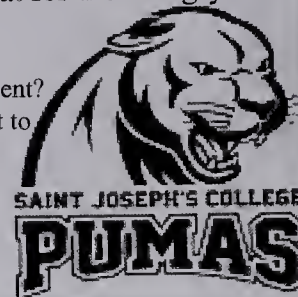
Measure is also located on social media. You can find Measure on Facebook under the same name and follow them on Instagram under the name "measuresjc."

Measure readings are held on the last Wednesday of the month. To become involved in the editing process, email [ntu9187@saintjoe.edu](mailto:ntu9187@saintjoe.edu).

## Upcoming Puma Events!

October 23, 24, & 25 - Fall Play  
October 25 - Family Day  
October 16 - Christian Worship Experience  
October 30 - Health and Wellness Fair  
October 31 - Trick or Treat for the Hungry

Want to get the word out about your event?  
Email the date and name of your event to  
Kylie Hill at  
[khw10051@saintjoe.edu](mailto:khw10051@saintjoe.edu) or  
Alyssa Cook at  
[acw10024@saintjoe.edu](mailto:acw10024@saintjoe.edu)



Students will spend New Year's in Shanghai, the financial capital of China  
Photo courtesy of Jackson Hooker via Saint Joseph's College Website

## Meet the Staff: Professor Chris La Cross

By Alyssa Cook  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Even though Professor Chris LaCross only teaches Cores One and Three, students may also have him in some of the foreign language classes here at Saint Joseph's College. Professor LaCross offers language classes for those looking to learn German and brings his knowledge of world cultures to the Core Program as a very well-traveled individual.

Professor LaCross grew up in Germany and now has dual citizenship there and in the United States. He received his undergraduate degree at the University of Central Michigan and went on to receive his masters in German literature from Michigan State University. He also received a masters in applied linguistics from Purdue University, and he got his PhD in second language acquisition there as well.

Professor LaCross teaches both German classes and independent study courses, providing basic and advanced instruction. He currently only teaches Cores One and Three, but he has had experience teaching Cores Two and Eight as well. LaCross acknowledges that while the Core Program takes some getting used to, it has its advantages in liberal arts education.

Professor LaCross first learned about Saint Joseph's



Professor Chris LaCross  
Photo courtesy of Google Plus

College through Professor Claudia Sadowski, who introduced him to the college. Needing a position while he finished his degree at Purdue, Saint Joseph's College gave him the opportunity to teach and finish his PhD.

For those students who have never had Professor LaCross as a professor, he had this to say: "Come to class prepared to learn and engage and to be involved as a co-learner as opposed to the teacher doing the work. They have to make the college transition and be a part of the learning community as well."

When he is not discussing world cultures in his classes, Professor LaCross prefers to experience them firsthand. He travels quite a bit, having been almost everywhere in Europe as well as China and Japan. He's taught all over the world and uses these experiences to enrich his classes here at Saint Joseph's College.



The cover of the 2013-2014 Measure Publication. Each year, the cover features a piece of student artwork that was submitted.  
Photo courtesy of Saint Joseph's College Website



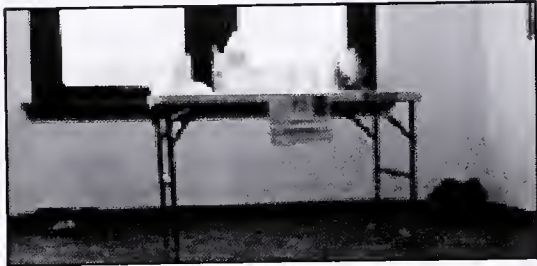
Awkward Lemonade

By Christina O’Connell  
Opinions Writer

On Thursday October 16, 2014, I participated in a lemonade stand with my roommate. This wasn’t your ordinary lemonade stand though. It took place on the stairway between the first and second floors of the science building. My roommate came up with this idea for her psychology project that was outside the norm. What better than a lemonade stand on your way up to the second floor? The project called for awkwardness and I think it succeeded. I felt the awkwardness, standing there on the second floor, as people passed a random lemonade stand. Granted it was free lemonade, but that didn’t automatically pull people towards it. I don’t think that the lemonade stand was awkward or the students passing it were, but it was my roommate and I that felt awkward ourselves. Awkwardness increased when people would ask what we did to the drinks.

I guess we look like the kind of people who would spike lemonade. Awkwardness

ensued when we invited people to take a lemonade, and they declined. To top it all, I also was recording the whole escapade. I recorded people’s reactions to the lemonade stand, and most were shocked at our unusual lemonade stand and the fact that it was free. Having a lemonade stand in the science building was fun, especially since getting up those tedious stairs is like running a marathon. By the time I make it to the third floor for class my legs are jello. I imagined this lemonade stand as a pit stop, and most people were very thankful for the refreshing lemonade. Next time I would put the lemonade stand on the third floor, a job well done for getting past those stairs of death. I think that my roommate’s idea of an awkward lemonade stand was creative, and it worked. It made people surprised and even suspicious. Trying to reel people in to get lemonade was awkward and being rejected was awkward. However, there were people who disagreed and said that it wasn’t awkward because they loved that delicious lemonade. The lemonade stand was very amusing and I think that they should continue on more unexpected spots on campus.



Left: The Awkward Lemonade Stand was set up in the Science Building  
Photo courtesy of Christina O’Connell

Voter Surpression, Again

By Steven Sewell  
Opinions Writer

A startling trend is developing in America that involves your right to vote. Politicians with crooked agendas have slowly been suppressing your rights by scaling back early voting in as many swing states as possible. Early voting is an important part of our democratic process, and undermining the electorate for partisan gain is a despicable act that threatens our democracy. We elect the best leaders when we have a high voter turnout, so any legislation that makes voting more difficult should be looked at with extreme skepticism, regardless of which side of the political spectrum you fall on.

Thirty-two percent of voters voted early in 2012. Voters in thirty-three states and the District of Columbia can vote early. Early voting is extremely beneficial to the workforce, the disabled, and

Below photo courtesy of Google Images



the elderly. It’s unfortunate that, since 2011, multiple states have cut back early voting to decrease turnout.

Early voting is primarily being cut back to decrease voter turnout among minorities, chiefly, African Americans. African Americans tend to vote Democrat, so it is advantageous for Republicans to suppress early votes. In 2008 and 2012, 70% of African Americans voted early in North Carolina. In 2012, African Americans in Ohio were twice as likely to vote early than whites. Both of these states have cut back early voting to suppress minority votes.

It’s unfortunate that we are still fighting voter suppression in 2014. Discriminatory legislation has made it harder for people to vote, undermining a fundamental part of our democracy. Everyone loses when the electorate is reduced, and the only way to stop it is by fighting and challenging this bogus legislation.

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph’s College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

College is Rotting My Brain

By Ashley R. Brinkman  
Opinions Editor

College is rotting my brain. I can feel it. I’m running on little to no sleep. I’m eating crap if I’m eating at all. I’m working all the time, and I can’t seem to get rid of this headache I’ve had for weeks. Maybe my headache could be because I’ve finally caught the supposed “Puma Plague”. But then I look around at my dorm room. It’s a mess of papers, books, and art projects. I’ve got dishes piling up, and I know I saw a mouse in my room last night that didn’t fill out a guest pass to stay with me. I have a stack of pictures that I need to scan in and return to Jeff Richey before the workers at the Physical Plant hunt me down. I’ve got mounds of homework that I’m not sure I will ever find the bottom of.

Why am I such a mess? I mean, it can’t be the eighteen credit hours I’m taking on top of working four on-campus jobs, one off-campus job, and my extracurriculars, or can it? I have no time to do anything that college kids are supposed to be doing. I can barely balance my weekly planner let alone find balance in the wellness triangle we learned so much about in health class. You might ask yourself (I mean, I ask myself this

all the time), what the hell am I doing with my life? Why am I working all the damn time? I’m tired, and fed up.

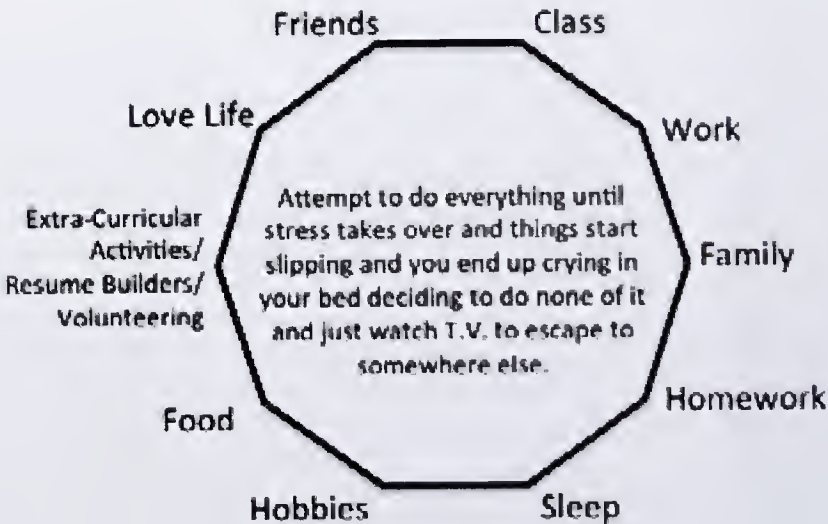
College has sucked the fun out of everything. This is supposed to be the time of my life right? I’m supposed to make my best and worst decisions here. I’m almost 20 years old for god’s sake! I’m supposed to get into trouble. I’m supposed to go on crazy adventures with my friends. I’m supposed to give love and get it back. I shouldn’t have to worry about the potential of making friends because in two years’ time I’ll be on the other side of the country in grad school. I don’t want to think about what I post on social media because my future employer is going to creep six years deep into my Facebook profile.

I want to do so many things, but I can’t because I’m doing homework, working, or attempting to get more than four hours of sleep. College has taught me how to turn my one and half page paper into three pages with just a few clicks. I can pass tests without having to read the book. (Reading, ha! As if I really have time to read anything truly appealing, let alone read for Core.) I know how fast my coffee percolator will brew a full pot (which is sixteen minutes and thirty seven seconds). I know how to do so many new things, but I continually feel like I’m losing brain cells and my ability to think of anything besides my carbon foot print, female circumcision, and whether I’ve interpreted that writing prompt in a way that

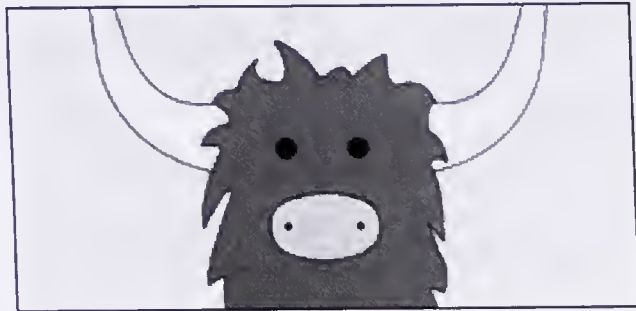
will impress my professor. I’ve learned so many things here, but at what cost?

My parents talk about college as the glory days of everyone’s life. But I feel like I’ll be lucky if I even make it out of this place alive and with as many brain cells as possible. I see my friends tweet about having mental break downs and anxiety attacks because of college. People ask me how I’m holding myself together. They tell me it seems like I’m everywhere all at once. My professor jokes that not everyone can be a superior being like me. But I’m not. I’m just a zombie going through these motions because it will look good on my resume.

Photo courtesy of Google Images







Left: The Yik Yak logo.  
Courtesy of Google Images

# YikYak to Their Face

By Josh Alengo  
Features Writer

Throughout all of history, one of the strongest universal factors affecting an individual's influence on a culture was his or her reputation. Nobility has always had to act with dignity and people of power have always had to speak with tact. When somebody says something negative or damaging to a group or individual, there are consequences for the speaker. This is how society rights itself, but what if the transgressor was unidentifiable? What if the heinous utterances of the inconsiderate or malevolent minority came from a source shaded in mystery? The words and ideas still have an effect on the targets or listeners, but there is then no way to enforce consequences on the speaker. This is the problem caused by the default status of an individual on the internet. Anonymity shields speakers from the consequences of what they say in most situations. This has led to issues like cyberbullying and real world muggings and even sexual assault. Being manipulated is bad enough, but being manipulated by a faceless stranger can be extremely dangerous.

Here on campus, the app known as YikYak has grown tremendously in popularity. Groups and staff members on campus are currently working on addressing issues brought about by the anonymity provided by the app that allows faceless and nameless individuals to bully and harass each other without consequence. YikYak combines the anonymity factor with a localized community, meaning it is much easier for people to harass people they know from their daily lives without anyone knowing who they are. These two factors have led to most of the controversies brought about.

YikYak has a means of reporting anybody that posts using actual names in order for those posts to be removed, but like any restrictive environment, people find ways around this. People target others with initials or via unique characteristics or positions such as "the captain of the <sport> team" or "that kid that always wears <clothing/accessories>." These vague identifiers are somewhat easy to address, but kids can be clever.

As one can assume, it is very hard for campus officials to regulate any of this without direct collaboration with the app developers, which is far from plausible or feasible. So what can be done? Well, for starters, users of the app--or really any service on the internet that allows for anonymity--can learn respect and common courtesy. It's important to remember that no matter how anonymous the speaker, the words communicated can hurt feelings and damage reputations. Crimes are no more benign when the perpetrator hides his or her identity, and harassment is no less destructive when we can't identify the harasser. Users must keep in mind that no matter how many layers of software and anonymity stand between them and the message recipient, the words still have effect and the sufferers are no better off, in fact they are much worse off. Sexual harassment is never acceptable or even tolerable no matter what the circumstances, and the same goes for slander and bullying. We are all college students and we are all here to better ourselves, not to demean others. If you truly want to voice a negative opinion, then pull up your big boy or girl pants and say it to their face and deal with the consequences like a civilized adult.

Below: A promotional poster for season two of *Orphan Black*. Photo courtesy of Google Images.



By: Joe Cain  
Features Writer

*Orphan Black* is a show that's kind of hard to sell to people, mostly because doing so requires spoiling what's built up as something of a reveal at the end of it's second episode. However, seeing as most of the marketing does so, I have no qualms doing so myself.

The story follows British-Canadian con artist Sarah Manning, who returns home to an unnamed Canadian city(which is definitely Toronto) after a lengthy absence. While standing on the train platform, she sees something odd. A woman who looks exactly like her approaches, sets down her purse, and promptly steps in front of an oncoming train.

Being a career thief, Sarah tries to take advantage of the situation by stealing the woman's identity, made easy by their matching appearances.

Soon after, she discovers that she's one of many clones created for some unknown reason by an equally unknown entity.

# Better Ways to Have Fun

By: Vivian Myers  
Features Writer

Most students on SJC campus talk about doing something fun and exciting on the weekends. Students plan, get excited during the week. Activities are talked about in class, in the cafeteria, and in the safety of their own rooms. Unfortunately for these students, these activities are not allowed unless you are of age. Not too much is being done to stop these students getting and using alcohol and drugs. Is there anything we can do on campus that can start to slow down the use of these substances? I believe there are some things everyone can do to help.

We are going to start with friends of these "problem" students. Most, if not all, students have at least one friend that takes part in these activities. Having this information the friends of these "problem" students have the ability to divert these activities. If you are a friend, invite your other friends to a movie night, hang out session, or maybe a safe activity on campus. If we can divert any inappropriate activities from the schedules of our friends, we can start the stop of these acts. Be a good and supportive friend; be the first person to act.

The second place we can go to is the campus itself. The more activities and events we have on campus, the more our students will be distracted. Also, if you are extremely active during the day then you will be tired by the time it's dark outside. The most anyone would want to do is hang out in a dorm room and watch movies or just hang out. We have had a few events on campus including Open Mic Night, Suicide Prevention Day,

Freshman Banquet, and book readings. If we had more events on campus, would it change the "problem" students?

Looking at other colleges and universities, they have a larger selection of events on campus. We have clubs that sponsor events, but they are having difficulties coming up with any more. They look for interesting things that will interest and distract all students.

There is one final thing that helps stop inappropriate acts. Maturity. This comes with age, taking responsibility for one's actions and time. Sadly, we cannot give, teach, or buy maturity. It is a self-learning process. A big factor in students taking part in inappropriate activities is due to the amount of responsibility and maturity.

We, as a campus, need to come together and do what we can to help the "problem" students. Let's give everyone a distraction.

As we have seen distractions come in many different forms. Events on campus put on by clubs and even the SJC staff, activities spontaneously decided upon with in groups of students, and many things distract students. Distractions can be effective in a negative way if they cause important things such as school work to be unfinished. In this case any kind of distraction is what students need.

Be an active member and student of SJC. Distract and be distracted by your fellow students. Events are put on to educate, entertain, and distract the students at any college or university. Why not take advantage of everything that is provided on campus?

# Orphan Black: Join the Clone Club

Anything else said about the story would be telling too much, so let's get on to why the show has absolutely imploded in popularity on tumblr, and the internet at large.

Most of the main cast is made up entirely of the clones themselves, and every one of them is played by the same actress Tatiana Maslany. However, she gives each individual clone such a unique persona, that you'll swiftly forget that it's the same women portraying each of them.

This helps to reinforce one of the central themes of the story, the age old nurture vs nature debate. Sarah and her genetic sisters all come from vastly different backgrounds, classes, and even countries. They have different accents, different ticks, and vastly different professions. Sarah's a con artist who works the streets. One of her sisters is upper middle class with income to spare.

What's made the show popular among fans, and made it a darling among television critics, is the same thing that made the similarly

titled *Orange is the New Black* a sensation. Most tv, especially those concerned with science fiction, have mostly focused on men. Women are present, but a man is almost always the central protagonist.

Not the case with *Orphan*. The story is entirely about a group of richly drawn women trying to unravel the mystery of their origins. Themes of choice, motherhood, sisterhood, and a right to choice permeate every episode, and even when the clones find themselves flung in different directions, they're always ultimately working together towards the same goal. The truth.

Something to be aware of going into *Orphan Black* is that it's heavily serialized. Like *Game of Thrones*, you have to watch every episode in order from start to finish. It's more dedicated viewing, but it's necessary to understand the labyrinth of details that makes up the plot.

It's a labyrinth worth navigating, though it requires a bit of mental legwork.



# The Worst Movie Based Off A Book... Ever

By Jimmy Kile  
Features Editor

I was wandering through a Borders bookstore one day when I happened across a blue book with a blue dragon on the cover. The book was called *Eragon* and it was written by Christopher Paolini. It looked like an awesome book in my opinion, not too long and not too short, so I bought and read it as soon as I got home.

The story was remarkable. It followed a young village boy named Eragon who one day finds a strange blue stone while hunting in the woods. The stone turns out to be a dragon egg and once the dragon inside it hatches, Eragon's world takes a turn for the worst.

After being forced to flee his farm in Carvahall, Eragon and the town storyteller Brom, along with the Dragon that Eragon names Saphira, make their way to the secret base of the Varden, a rebellion set to overthrow the king of the land. Along the way, Brom teaches Eragon how to be a Dragon Rider and how to use magic.

When I found out that *Eragon* was being turned in to a movie, I was excited. The book was so good. I was expecting the movie to be as equally good.

It wasn't and this movie taught me to never trust in movie adaptations of books ever.

The movie was a terrible

adaption of the book. Here are the reason why.

The most important reason the movie was a terrible adaption is that they left out about three quarters of the story. In the book, when Eragon and Brom leave Carvahall they have two objectives: seek revenge on the people that ruined Eragon's life and join the Varden. The movie only focused on the journey to join the Varden. The quest for vengeance takes up a large part of the book, a portion where Eragon learns and develops his fighting and magic skills.

This happened because the movie was made to be a family friendly movie, which is not how the story is. In order for the book to have been successfully adapted to a movie, the whole story should have been used and the movie should have been rated a hard PG-13 or R. The story was perfect the way it was, so changing it in any way (especially toning it down to be family friendly) only destroyed the quality of the story.

Because of the change of story, also changed was one of the most important scenes in the story: the scene where Eragon uses magic for the first time.

In the book, Eragon is trapped in an alleyway as two enemies are charging at him and in a moment of desperation a burst of magic energy overwhelms the bad guys and Eragon goes unconscious. When he awakes, Brom tells

Eragon what he did and explains what magic is and the rules of magic. Brom then continues to teach Eragon how to use magic.

In the movie, Brom and Eragon are exploring a town and Brom tells Eragon to stay put and then wanders off. After getting his fortune told, Eragon is reunited with Brom and they start running from bad guys. As they run, Eragon shoots an arrow from his bow which is inexplicably charged with magic and it blows up the bridge they are running on. Eragon blacks out. When Eragon wakes up, Brom tells him about what he did, and then teaches him about magic.

While it might not matter to some how Eragon used magic for the first time, I found the movie version to be quite lame. It seemed cheap to me. In the book, the events surrounding the scene cause the reader to be nervous as Eragon and Brom explore an abandoned town. The whole scene is much more emotional in the book and in the movie it just happens.

Another thing that flopped in the movie was their depiction of Eragon's dragon Saphira. I had envisioned Saphira as a bold, deep blue with a boney ridge on her head like a triceratops and large membraney wings with finger type bones, like a classical depiction of a dragon. A very strong and fearsome animal. In the movie though, she appears

more feminized. There a lot of curves on her body and she has what appear to be large bird wings. Very non-threatening.

Christopher Paolini published three very succesful sequels to *Eragon* and the series is one of the most famous fantasy series



Above: Am advance movie poster for the movie Eragon based off the book by Christopher Paolini. Pictured is the Gedwëy ignasia, the mark of a bond between a dragon and its rider Image courtesy of Google Images.

ever. No more movies were made of any of the books, which is good.

The only way to make any of the books in to a good movie is to use the whole story and not tone it down to be family friendly.

## Arsenic & Old Lace

By Katie Davisson  
Features Editor

Every fall, Saint Joseph's College's Columbian Players put on a play and this year is no different. John Rahe, the director, has chosen quite the quirky selection for this fall play in *Arsenic And Old Lace*. The show features some pretty interesting characters.

For starters, there are Abby and Martha Brewster, two older women who reside in the home of their father, a late doctor who was infamous for his experiments and wealth, which he left to his children. Because of their father's practices, they have access to many things, including a laboratory and a basement.

The two sweet ladies are aunts to three boys: Mortimer, Teddy, and Jonathan. Mortimer is a writer who, at the time of the play is a play critic. He stops in often to check on his aunts and, as the play begins, he checks more frequently due to his new romanite interesting in the reverend's daughter that lives just next door to the aunts. Jonathan, who you don't meet until the end of the first act, has been in Chicago the last five years with his sidekick, Dr. Einstein. Jonathan is a nasty fellow who is willing to do whatever it takes to get what he wants, no matter who it involves. Teddy is the only of the three who still lives with the aunts due to his belief that he is in fact Theodore Roosevelt. This delusion is harmless, the worst of it resulting in a loud bugle blow before the cabinet meetings. In fact, Teddy's belief of his presidency is one of the more normal features of the play.

Throughout the three acts of *Arsenic and Old Lace* much is discovered about the aunts and their nephews. It's a smaller cast, only thirteen characters to fill. The playbill will be full of quality Saint Joseph's College students down to the minor roles. But, as far ast the major roles go, expect to see Megan Hetzel and Shannon Kiley playing the duet of Abby and Martha. They bring the sweetness and sass of the Brewster sisters. Jake McCoy plays the character of Mortimer, a man who is just trying to make sense of the life he's been given. AJ Frigo is Jonathan Brewster and plays his villanous profile to a T, accompanied by Marten Moreno who, with his thick German accent, gives Dr. Einstein a whole new reputation. And, of course, the Observer's very own Patrick McElwain is featured as Teddy. If you don't laugh at his prime bugle playing, I'll be impressed.

Don't miss *Arsenic and Old Lace* opening on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night of this week, at 7 pm. Go watch the Columbian Players pull together a creative and comedic play!

## Addicted

By Johna Bottorff  
Features Writer

The newest movie out in theaters is Addicted. This movie is based on the best-selling novel by Zane.

This movie tells the story of a woman named Zoe Reynard who is a successful gallerist. She has just one problem. She is a sex addict.

Well she doesn't know that she is an addict she just knows that she wants it all the time. She is married to Jason Reynard, who is an architect. They have two children, and she and her husband know that they are soul mates.

Her life changes for the worst when she meets the handsome Quinton Canosa, an up-and-coming artist. Quinton makes his move on Zoe, and after she has it with him she can't get enough.

After a while, her affair with Quinton starts to have an effect on her life. She starts neglecting her family, and Quinton wants her to leave her family and be with him. But Zoe loves her family, so she tries to get her fix from someone else. A man named Corey, whom she met in a night club, is the next person to come into Zoe's web of lies.

Once her life starts spinning out of control, she can no longer go without sex. It starts to affect her business. Then, once she decides with help from her therapist to end all contact with Quinton and Corey, things really take a turn for the worst. Zoe no longer has a grip on her life, and it all goes to hell when she tries to stop her affairs. Throughout the movie Zoe is talking to her therapist, Marcella, who is trying to get Zoe to think about her past. Zoe doesn't want to think about her past. There are too many terrible memories, one in particular that she has put in the back of her mind.

This movie does contain a few steamy love scenes, but there are some scenes that will tug at

your heart strings. If you want to see this movie I suggest that you do not see it with a parent.

This movie has an all-star cast. Sharon Leal plays Zoe. Leal has been in films such as *This Christmas*, and *Why Did I Get Married*. Leal really branches out in this movie. She plays her role very well, and she makes it believable.

Boris Kodjoe plays Zoe's husband Jason; he has been in productions such as *The Real Husbands of Hollywood*, and *Resident Evil*. In this movie he is loving and supportive of his wife and he has a big hand in her healing process.

Quinton Canosa is played by the very handsome William Levy, who has been on countless telenovelas and most recently a movie called *The Single Moms Club*. He plays the crazy psycho lover to the very best of his abilities, and he hits the nail right on the head.

Tasha Smith plays Zoe's therapist. Smith has been in movies such as *Why Did I Get Married* and *Daddy's Little Girls*. Smith is normally loud and outspoken in all the movies that she acts in, but in this movie she is quiet and calm, it really shows you how she has grown as an actress.

Corey is played by Tyson Beckford, who has been in movies such as *Zoolander* and TV shows like *My Wife and Kids*.

Even though it is based off a book, there are some things missing and some things added, but this movie is worth the ten dollars. This movie shows the struggle of someone with a terrible addiction that can almost be as bad as doing drugs. It shows how lies and deceit can turn your world upside down. It shows that even in your darkest hour, those who truly love you and care about you will be there to support you.



# Pumas Lose Heartbreaker at Home

By Patrick McElwain  
Sports Co-Editor

The Saint Joseph's College football team can call itself the King of the Road. However, home games have been a different story. For the second time in as many road games, the Pumas were able to top their opponent, only to come home the next week and drop their next game.

On October 11, the Pumas went into Jefferson City, Missouri to take on the Lincoln University Blue Tigers. The defense of the Pumas was the big story, yet again showing its prowess by forcing five turnovers. Two of those turnovers came from Gary Yeoman's interception and Eric Heinzman's forced fumble. Yeoman and Heinzman each led the way for the Pumas defensively, chipping in 7 total tackles and 2 sacks apiece. Also forcing a fumble and recovering one was backer Joel Wimbley, who finished with 9 tackles on the day. In the secondary, Jamyl Scott picked off quarterback Owen Jordan and added 3 tackles and 4 pass breakups. Tracy Whitehead also added a forced fumble of his own. Anchoring the line behind Heinzman was Cody French who tallied 3 tackles.

Offensively, the Pumas didn't look too shabby either. Quarterback Tate Borlik finished the day going 12 of 26 with 1 touchdown to EJ Woody and 2 picks, one being brought back by Robert Daniels for a touchdown. Woody also added another grab for 3 yards, totaling his gain to 24 yards. Borlik's favorite target on the afternoon was Alphonso Hines, who recorded 5 grabs for 84 yards. The Puma backfield known as the Four-Headed Monster was at it again. Braxton Shelton continued to roll, netting 164 yards and 2 touchdowns on 31 touches. Kobi Cook also added a score, notching 80 yards on 18



*Pictured Tate Borlik handing the ball off to Braxton Shelton  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland*

carries. Although Mike Anderson was responsible for a costly fumble early on, he made up for it with a solid performance, running for 50 yards on 11 carries. Senior James Wilson added 11 yards on 3 carries himself. In total, the Pumas outrushed the Blue Tigers 298-106. The Pumas came out on top 28-20, and took that win home for the next week's matchup against Quincy University on the 18th.

However, for the second consecutive home game, the Pumas weren't able to capitalize on the chances given, giving up 17 unanswered fourth quarter points and dropping to the Hawks at home 17-7. The Pumas pounced on the Hawks on the game's very first drive, with Borlik finding tight end Addison Dellinger from 24 yards out. Each

team had plenty of possession time on the rainy afternoon, with turnovers and defense headlining the story.

Borlik went 11-31 with 1 touchdown and 2 interceptions, the last of which was in the endzone to end the football game. Five of those completions were to senior receiver Joey Bishoff, who ended the day with 54 yards. Not only were the offensive struggles on the passing end, but also on the rushing end. Shelton recorded 96 yards on 16 carries, uncharacteristically being held under 100 yards. Cook also chipped in 40 yards on 8 carries.

The defense was able to flex its muscles yet again, despite the offensive troubles. The Puma defense forced 4 fumbles, recovering 3 of them. The Pumas

were a very good tackling defense on the afternoon, with Drew Byrd leading the way with 13. Gary Yeoman added 10 of his own, half of which were for a loss. Getting the start in place of an injured Jamyl Scott was Ken Naylor, who played with poise for filling such big shoes. Naylor finished with 8 tackles with 2 for a loss. Wimbley also notched 11 total tackles and a sack. Despite the gallant effort from the defense, Quincy proved to be too much in the fourth quarter, getting scores from Chris Harris and Eric Poindexter, and also adding a field goal. This brings the Pumas' record to 5-2.

The team will stay at home again to play Southwest Baptist University. The Pumas aim to go right back to their old ways of winning at home. Puma fans everywhere hope they do.

## Upcoming Events

### October 24th

Men's and Women's Soccer  
at Lewis University  
in Romeoville, IL  
5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

### October 25th

Men's and Women's Cross  
Country vs. NCAA Regional  
Preview  
in Evansville, IN  
11:15 a.m.

Football vs. Southwest Baptist  
University  
12:00 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Maryville  
University  
3:00 p.m.

### October 26th

Men's and Women's Soccer vs.  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside  
12:00 & 2:30 p.m.

Volleyball vs. University of  
Missouri-St. Louis  
1:00 p.m.

### October 28th

Volleyball vs. University of  
Indianapolis  
7:00 p.m.

### October 29th

Men's and Women's Soccer vs.  
University of Indianapolis  
5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

### October 30th

Football at Univeristy of  
Indianapolis  
8:00 p.m.

## Volleyball Sweeps at Crossover

By Jessica Cates  
Sports Co-Editor

The Saint Joseph's College volleyball team took on the Lewis University Flyers on Friday October 10th. The Pumas came out strong the first set with a 26-24 win. SJC hit .275 in the competitive set which was tied multiple times throughout and concluded with a hit by Anna Sacco. The Flyers responded well in the 2nd set, hitting .429 in their 25-16 win. The momentum stayed with Lewis for the rest of the match up and SJC fell in the next two sets 25-17 and 25-21. Statistical leaders for SJC include Anna Sacco, who hit .323 for the day and had 15 kills and 3.5 blocks, Bridget Krasowski, who finished with 10 kills and 10 digs, Kate Wagenaar, who had eight kills, Megan Sturm, who racked up 24 assists, and Katie Dugan, who added 24 digs.

SJC then took on the Rangers of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on Saturday October 11th. The Pumas fell in three straight sets in the conference match up. SJC started strong in the first set with a 13-9 lead,

however the Rangers rallied to tie the set at 15 and ended up taking the first set 25-22. The next two sets resulted in a 25-19 loss and a 25-16 loss and followed the same formula with the Pumas staying close or leading through the first half of the set and then falling behind in the second half. Notable performances for the Pumas include Krasowski, who finished with a team best 10 kills, Sacco, who added seven kills, and Sturm, who had 19 assists and 10 digs.

The Pumas then partook in the GLVC/GLIAC Crossover on Friday October 17th. GLVC schools shined and took 21 of the 24 match ups. Two of these victories came from the Pumas who bested Wayne State 3-2 and Lake Superior State 3-1. In the Wayne State match up, Megan Sewell had 17 kills and Krasowski added 13, including the match winning one. Sturm collected 30 assists and Gabby Raspopovich added 12 digs and 2 aces. Statistical leaders in the Lake Superior State match include Krasowski, who finished

with 18 kills and five digs, Wagenaar, who had seven kills and two block assists, Dugan, who added 12 digs, and Lauren Robertson, who had 23 assists.

The Crossover continued on Saturday and the Pumas continued to shine with a sweep over Malone University. SJC took the first two sets 25-17, with an attacking percentage of .324 in the first set and .355 in the second. The Pioneers battled in the third set and at one point had a 16-11 lead on a 4 point run. This run was stopped by a service error that was followed by a kill by Robertson. SJC eventually tied the set at 22 and then won four out of the five final points to finish the sweep. Notable performances for the Pumas include Sewell, who had 12 kills, Krasowski, who added 11 kills, Robertson, who finished with five kills and 13 assists, and Sturm, who racked up 17 assists and seven digs.

The Pumas will travel to Romeoville, Illinois to play Kentucky State University on Tuesday October 21st.



*Pictured Anna Sacco serving  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland*



# Cross Country Starts Off Strong

By Hannah Wallace  
Sports Writer

The Saint Joseph's Men's and Women's Cross Country teams has finally begun their season. The Pumas have been training since August for this day. The Pumas had their first race on October 4th at SIUE's John Flamer's Invitational and competed against six different teams. Frehiwet Negassi finished twenty-third overall and the team placed fifth. The men's team had three finishers in the top twenty-five with Logan Barrett finishing the race in first place. Following behind him was Justin Hays in eighteenth place and Richard Kaht in twenty-second. The men's team completed the meet with an overall fourth place finish. Logan Barrett was named GLVC Men's Runner of the Week – this is the first time a Puma has earned this titled since 2010. Along with Barrett, the men's team had a great performance that weekend

as well as the women's. The cross country teams are just at the beginning of their journey, and they keep improving.

The following weekend, the Saint Joseph College Pumas competed at Lewis University with the Pre-GLVC Championship Meet. There were only three teams competing in this race and the men's and women's teams finished first for both overall. Frehiwet led the girls to first place as she finished runner-up with a time of 18:50 in the 5000m race. Andie Strang was not too far behind Frehiwet as she finished in sixth place with a time of 19:07 and teammate Brooke Werstler was right behind her with an 11th place finish with Rachel Bartz in eighteenth. Following close behind were teammates Nikki Thiede, and Hannah Wallace.

The men's team also finished in first place and Logan Barrett, for the second week in a row, won the race again with a time

of 25:39 in the 8000 meter race. Justin Hays was not far behind at 26:25 in third place and the Pumas squeezed one more in the top ten as Brian Eurtion finished in ninth place with a time of 26:29 right next to Hays.

The Pumas continue to improve and work towards their goals in placing at Conference, Regionals, and holding that spot in Nationals. The men and women's teams will be racing again this week at the NCAA Regional Preview held at University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana.

*Pictured Logan Barret  
Photo Courtesy of Saint Joseph's  
College Athletics Website*



## Soccer Struggles at Home

By: Jessica Cates  
Sports Co-Editor

The Saint Joseph's College Men's and Women's soccer teams continued their conference play this past weekend with games against Maryville University on Friday October 17th and the University of Missouri-St. Louis on Sunday October 19th. The men's team took an early lead against Maryville with a goal by Nick Cossyleon in the fifth minute of the match. However, in the 24th minute Gus Reinitz tied the game and shifted the momentum in their favor. Maryville then scored 4 more goals, all of which went unanswered, to win the match 5-1.

In the women's match against Maryville, the Saints took the early lead with a goal in the 18th minute. The Puma defense stepped up after that and the score at half was 1-0 Saints. In the 55th minute, Maryville added

another goal to extend its lead. The Pumas responded with a goal in the 60th minute by Brittany Santoro, her first of the season. The Saints, however, scored yet another goal in the 67th minute to lead them to a 3-1 victory. Notable performances for the Pumas include Melissa Kuhar, who had five saves on the evening, and Santoro, who took three shots, two on goal..

In Sunday's match up against UMSL, the men's team fell 3-0. UMSL took an early 2-0 lead which they carried until after the half. The Pumas had several opportunities to score in the second half. They took six shots, two of which were on goal, however they failed to reach the back of the net. UMSL, on the other hand, added another goal in the 80th minute to lead them to a 3-0 win. Statistical leaders for the Pumas include Eric Frasco and Alex Becker, who each had two shots, one on goal.

The women's team took an early 1-0 lead on a goal by Haley Celebre with an assist from Brittany Santoro in the 27th minute. This was Celebre's first goal of the season. The Pumas held their lead through the half, but the Tritons came out strong with the wind on their side after intermission. In the 54th minute, they tied the game and then took the lead in the 74th minute. They added an insurance goal in the 83rd minute of the match. Statistical leaders for the Pumas include Kuhar, who made four saves on the day, Celebre, who had three shots, two on goal and one goal, and Megan Gramhofer, who finished with three shots on the day.

Both the men's and the women's teams will travel to Romeoville, Illinois to continue their conference play against the Lewis University Flyers on Friday, October 24th.



*Pictured Eric Frasco  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland*

## Puma Athlete Spotlight: Andie Strang



*Photo courtesy of Saint Joseph's  
College Athletics Website*

By Katelyn Konow  
Sports Staff Writer

**Andie Strang is a senior from Kaneville, Illinois. She is Biology major with a Chemistry minor. She is on the women's Cross Country and Track teams.**

**How did you become interested in your sports?**

"I realized I was terrible at soccer, but never got tired running (and failing) to win the ball."

**What is your motivation to run?**

"The personal and team

accomplishments are unparalleled. Nothing in the world is more satisfying than seeing results from hard work."

**How do you mentally prepare for a race?**

"I make sure to stay relaxed and to trust my training. No sense wasting nervous energy."

**Which teammate pushes you the most?**

"We have a VERY strong/talented team this year and every day we have someone feeling good and stepping up to push the rest of us through the workout. However, Frahiwet Negassi has been one of the best and most talented training partners I have ever had the privilege to run with and be pushed by."

**What is your most accomplishing momemnt?**

"Any time that we can run a successful pack race, meaning when we can get at least five girls within a short distance from each other finishing a race. There isn't a better feeling knowing that you ran well WITH your team that you have spent so much time training with."

**Favorite shoe brand?**

"I have always had success with Asics for cross trainers, but I love Nike spikes and racing flats."

**What is the longest distance you have ran?**

"I think I have capped out at twelve or thirteen miles."

**What other sports have you played?**

"I played basketball all four years of high school and LOVED it. Basketball is definitely another passion."

**What is your favorite quote?**

"There is something comforting about a billion stars held steady by a God who knows what he is doing.' Or, 'That's the thing about running: your greatest runs are rarely measured by racing success. They are moments in times when running allows you to see how wonderful your life is.' -Kara Goucher"

*Know an athlete that deserves the spotlight? Email their name to jcu8913@saintjoe.edu*



# the back page

## Creative Corner

October 23, 2014



Charcoal Drawing By Gloria M. Leonard

### The Sun Never Stays

By Gloria M. Leonard

Night falls, he walks in the door.

“Bella Luna,” he calls,

And I melt with those two words alone.

His lips caress my cheekbones,

Tracing my jaw line,

And down the nape of my neck.

He plants kisses along my spine,

Between my shoulder blades,

And I swear I’m sprouting wings.

He runs his hands down my arms

And I try to comprehend how a touch so warm

Can give me chills, so cold.

But the night is over, and he has to go.

### Puddles & No Rain Boots

By Nicole B. Thomsen

He told me I smother him.

I just want to hold him

because if I hold

him hard enough

maybe

he will hold me back,

but he told me

I’m

smothering

him.

I hear nothing.

I see nothing.

I feel noth--

I feel hurt.

I feel sad.

I pull my knees to my chest.

I roll to the edge of my side of the bed.

I hear nothing. I see nothing. I feel nothing.

### Then and Now

By Jennie Weer

As a child I wanted to leave  
To go far and follow my dreams.

As a student I looked for friends,  
And when I found none, I found my bed.

As a child I yearned for a hand,  
Of my mother’s or sister’s to hold.

As a student I looked for love.  
Clichés and relationships broke my  
search.

As a child I cared what others thought.  
As a student, now, I don’t.



Mixed Media on Tapestry By Ashley Brinkman

Mixed Media and Painting By Victoria Berenda



Photograph By Nicole B. Thomsen

